

IN THE DRAWINGS

The examiner objected to the drawings. Applicant is herewith submitting formal drawings. No new matter has been entered.

REMARKS

The examiner rejected Original Claims 1 to 3. Applicant has cancelled those claims and added New Claims 4 to 9. Thus, New Claims 4 to 9 are now pending.

The examiner rejected Original Claims 1 to 3 as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 5,034,012 to Frigg. Applicant has submitted New Claims 4 to 9. As explained below, it is respectfully submitted that New Claims 4 to 9 are not anticipated by Frigg.

Frigg discloses the conventional use of an IM Nail with screws. The new claims set forth an IM Nail with a guidewire track, and the use of a plurality of screws in combination with a threaded guidewire to securely lock the nail in place and prevent the screws from coming loose at the screw nail interface. The method of the present invention results in a new way for the screws to be locked in place by means of the guidewire. Frigg discloses, neither implicitly nor explicitly, use of a threaded guidewire in a guidewire track of the IM Nail as a means to hold the screws tightly in place. Nor does Frigg disclose using the succeeding screws to lock the guidewire in place.


It is respectfully submitted that the method of the present invention is neither anticipated nor rendered obvious by Frigg. Thus, it is respectfully requested that the Examiner promptly allow Claims 4 to 9.

If the examiner believes that the prosecution of this case will be expedited by contact with Applicant's counsel, please contact the undersigned at (732) 761-1610.

Respectfully Submitted,

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